

**Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
Camp Harkness Office
301 Great Neck Road
May 28, 2015
Minutes**

Present: Stan Soby, Bev Jackson, Thomas Dailey, Ron Rasi, Betsy Danforth, April Dipollina, Shannon Aiello, Jackson Pierre-Louis, Dan Steward, Vicki Severin

Others Present: Liz Adams, Carin Mancini, Frank Provenzano, Maryann Langton, Debbie F. (personal support), Ernie Smith, Neil Cobligh, Rose Ann Smith, Charle Smith

1. Call to Order: 10:35 AM

2. Public Comments: None

3. Additions to Agenda: None

4. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes were amended to include Vicki as present and to change the name of Ron to Rob in public comments. Jackson motioned to accept the amended minutes. The motion was seconded by April. All in favor. Shannon abstained. The minutes were approved.

5. Correspondence: None

6. Camp Harkness Fund:

Vicki and April reported:

- May cleanup was successful
- Volunteers were interested in joining
- There was an agreement to support New London Group to attend High Hopes
- Camperships were awarded to campers and individuals are referred directly to camps
- Items were purchased for gardens
- Volunteer Joan Kelsey wishes to purchase tools to enable individuals in wheel chairs to work in gardens. She will donate them.
- There are plans to do the Brick Campaign over the summer

7. Old Business:

A. Camp Report

i. Master Plan

- Carin reported that the April meeting had a good turn out with a lot of questions and feed back
- Commissioner Morna Murray attended
- Vicki reported that there was a small attendance after the May clean up
- There was a request to post Master Plan in dining room
- Vicki and Carin are still updating email addresses in order to post the plan

ii. Physical Plant

- Ernie reported progress at barn
 - Loading dock
 - fences
- Liz noted that a delay may be possible if construction is not complete
 - Proposed starting date of June 22, 2015
- Frank is working on Master Plan with Central Office engineering department
 - Road way
 - Infrastructure
 - Hoping it will reach bonding by winter (December)
- MaryAnn asked if bars in mens/ womens bathrooms have been installed
- Frank responded that there was a delay due to the fact that toilet paper holders have to be installed before the bars and they were on order
- Bev suggested double checking the position of the holders in the cabins also
- Swings have been installed in ARC area
- Infirmary is near completion
- Bev mentioned that News 8 featured a story on Camp clean up; story stated there were 120 Foxwood, Mohegan Sun volunteers
- Vicki discussed making walkways an educational feature; she has had a conversation with an Environmental Science teacher to work on the project

iii. Summer Camp Opening

- June 22, 2015 Oak Hill and Southbury will open
- There is ongoing training of staff
- Arc and UCP will open the following week

iv. Camp Usage/ Events

a. Usage and Events

- Vicki reported on usage and events – see attached
- There will be more emphasis on pass holders having current information
- The possibility of Buildings and Ground Patrol personnel having a state cell phone was discussed

b. Fire Pit

- Reduced size (lower)
- Will be addressed after barn and super deck projects are complete

c. Rules Updates

- Rules updates are complete
- People are in the process of signing
- Wood is being sold

d. Cabin Deposit

- Vicki reported that they are working on the process of checking in and out
- It may be August before the policy is in place

e. Website Update

- Carin reported that the design is set
- Shannon shared Arc staff questions regarding access to Wi-Fi and Carin responded that she was unsure about access at this point
- Frank reported that a bond commission was involved in bringing a line into camp

f. Bingham Beach

- Tom reported that the process was under preliminary review
- He will bring legal counsel for a walk thru
- Dan will facilitate

g. Commissioner Visit Debriefing

- April reported that the turnout was good for the Commissioner visit
- Parents were able to connect
- There was a good response regarding current events in legislature
- It was suggested that the Commissioner be invited during a camp session
- Betsy suggested that August would be a good time because the campers would be in an overnight session and the Governor's house guard and UCP would be on site
- Betsy stated that the meeting with the Commissioner was a positive experience

h. Other

- Charle questioned his appointment status
- Betsy expressed concern for the Arc new policy regarding staff not swimming without a life guard present
- She was concerned that it would limit swimming opportunities at private pools and may cause increased attendance at Camp Harkness Beach

8. New Business: None

9. Adjournment: 11:37PM

- Motion to adjourn by April, seconded by MaryAnn.

Next Meeting: June 25, 2015 at Camp Harkness

Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Aiello, Secretary